## Gloucestershire Hospitals

## **My Career Story**

Elizabeth Mary Abraham Practice Educator for TNA and Care Certificate

I am a qualified nurse from India, the country where 'Mother of the poor' Mother Teresa led a life by setting example to every little girl out there. Being involved in 'Save Our Souls' campaign as a child, enabled me to think about ways of helping others. It made me realise healthcare is the sector that I should put my foot in. I had the opportunity to be a Nurse Educator for Nursing Students in the same college in India where I studied my Nursing degree and it was there I discovered my passion to teach.

My interest rose when I realised the opportunities that this profession brings into one's life that would enable a person to be the best human being. My decision to come to the UK has literally given wings to all my dreams. I was always open to the idea of cross cultural exposure and the experience one gets from people around you. That was my prime reason to choosing the UK. I came as a student to do a degree in healthcare management, as I always wanted to explore the vast opportunities this sector offers to us. Whilst studying, I registered with the NMC, I then wanted to join a Trust that offers OSCE support to overseas Nurses and my search ended up at this amazing Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Trust, being one of the pioneers in offering OSCE support.

I joined the trust in 2017, along with my passion and hard work and the support of my mentors and great colleagues, I achieved OSCE in my very first attempt and started to work as a Staff Nurse in Ward 4b, elderly care. Witnessing the quality and selfless nature of the Professional Education team of the Trust, since day one of training, I had the ultimate dream to join the great Educational Team at some point. On the journey of exploring opportunities for career development, I came to know about the Chief Nurse Fellow programme run by the Trust. The entry to this programme gave me wonderful opportunities to shadow senior leaders and it was indeed a great exposure. I could mould my leadership abilities and it gave me confidence to go forward and apply for a role in the Education Department. I undertook a Silver Quality Improvement project which is proven useful to many newly qualified nurses. I have never regretted my decision towards learning and sharing my knowledge, it has taken me to my current position of Practice Educator which I truly enjoy. Currently, I deliver the OSCE programme, along with Ali who was my OSCE Educator and lead the TNA programme along with my Colleague Sam. I can undoubtedly say that by being a part of our Professional Education Team, who endlessly strives to inspire the future generation, I am living my dream.

Besides the role of an educator, I am a part of PEER support group. I am trained as a TRIM practitioner and also an Inclusion champion for the Trust. All was possible because of the support of my team and Trust.

Being a nurse and working as a Practice Educator, is all about human connections. I allowed my passion to become my purpose and one day it became my profession. Live and let live is my motto and without doubt in all honesty, I can say that I selected the best profession in the world. I am enjoying every moment of it to the maximum.









